ETC.

Hmm...it's that time of the month and I have to explain what's going on. I numbered last month's issue wrong but it's corrected now.

Plug Time: Plugs go to one of fandom's more interesting projects, the Gazette (see ad on page 7); Joe Brancatelli's Comic Fandom Monthly, an excellent monthly adzine which I am now doing a regular column for (ad on page 10); and an art zine which has taken a century and a half to prepare, namely Phase. Ad in my next issue.

Explinations: Sex In The Overground Comics didn't make it into this ish and Duffy's Tavern is now two months late. "Sex" will be in a special extra edition to be pubbed about Jan 1. This is because a lot of things are brewing at DC which won't be final till about the week after this issue comes out. It'll run about 12 pages and will also contain the results (long lost) of the 1969 Alley Awards Poll, an article by Steve Utley, and possibly a page's worth of Curt Swan or Al Plastino on a strip called Super-Kinney which was originally published in a Kinney House organ and that I have managed to get permission to reprint.

At the moment (the day after Creation Con) I am trying to figure out how I can get my entire issue done in 6 or 7 hours so I can tell you what's going on.

Short ex-officio editorial statement from Mark (& I'm not quite quoting): I always intended to turn TCR over to somebody. The only problem was finding someone who could do and was dumb enough to want to.

Everybody wants me to keep the Marvel Coming Comics so I am. However I still think that it needs improvement and I'm working on it from a couple of angles.

My new final size is 16 pages per issue. That will contain no more than two pages of ads (and maybe less if certain zine editors will get off my back).

I think I'd better give up while I'm behind. Oh yes, circulation of No. 10/78 was between 975 and 1000 copies. Number 2 and trying harder!!!

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ETCETERA & THE COMIC READER

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NO. 11&79

DECEMBER 71

ETCETERA & THE COMIC READER

Deadman in New Gods

Deadman will be appearing as a supporting character in The New Gods. Nobody except Jack Kirby knows exactly how this is going to work at the moment but editorial opinion at DC indicates that he will inhabit the body of one of the major New Genesis gods. According to my estimate this should begin in No. 9. I hope to have exact details in my "extra" issue (see editorial column for details).

Every fifth or sixth issue of Tarzan will reprint Hal Foster newspaper strips to give Joe Kubert a chance to catch his breath. The first issue of Tarzan (Feb. 29) will include a three page Foster story.

Steve Ditko may do a new feature for Adventure Comics if he likes the script. The work would appear in No. 422 and 423. The script is heavy on text and light on art.

DC has finally decided where they're moving to. Since they moved into 909 Third Avenue a couple of years ago it had been planned that they would move into a Kinney National building. The site is the old Esso building in Rockafeller Center and the move is planned for sometime in 1972. Pictures of the building are reproduced below from the Kinney house organ. The new quarters are supposedly even more sumptuous than those currently housing the Independant News Family.

At right a full view of the building. Below the main entrance.

photos courtesy Kinneygram

DC'S NEW HQ ··· KINNEY NATL. BUILDING

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PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS & OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO PAUL LEVITZ.

Justice League 100 is going to be a very special issue. I can't tell you what's in it yet but Len Wein is writing it and I guarantee that on the basis of plot-line alone it will win every Shazam and Goethe that it is eligable for. One thing I will reveal, it will contain the first section of a reprint of a SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY story.

E. Nelson Bridwell reports that he will probably include a reprint of a Justice Society story in the JLA 100-Pager this year!

Alex Toth did the intros for Weird War Tales 5.

Gray Morrow will do the second John Carter Of Mars story.

Brave & Bold 102 will feature Batman & Teen Titans. 101 will feature another Viking Prince reprint.

CORRECTION ON THE SUPERBOY 100-PG: The Swifty story has been lost and is being replaced with "Clark Kent's Super Father", the first story of Jak-Ur.

Late news on Deadman - he will occupy the body of a dead New God.

The 100-Page Superman will contain: The two "Powerstone" stories. These are stories in which Luthor possesses a kind of electrical super-power and he is out to find the Powerstone which will increase his powers. The stories are from 1942 and I believe one appeared in Action and the other in Superman. The only modern story in the issue is "Superman's Greatest Feats" from 1961. From the Golden Age we have a Sheldon Moldoff X Hawkman story which introduced Hawkgirl. There's also Starman's first encounter with the villainous Mist. An early story of Dr. Fate is included, one before he had a secret identity. The Spectre is represented by the sequel to the "Zor" story that appeared in the first "World's Greatest Super-Heroes" issue, DC-6. Black Condor is also in the issue (art by Lou Fine) as is The Ray.

The Batman 100-Page will be devoted to non-super heroes -- Sandman, Crimson Avenger, et al.

Tomahawk is being cancelled with 140, not 139 as I reported.

World's Finest 211 will feature another Superman and Batman story. 212 will star Superman and the Manhunter From Mars in a Denny O'Neil story which at long last winds up those trailing plot threads from JLA 71.

Justice League 98, the concluding part of the Starbrooker novel, will guest star Sargon The Sorcerer. Reprints in that issue will be Sargon and Starman.

Mike Friedrich has resigned his job as Julie Schwartz's assistant and is now working for Marvel. No replacement has been chosen but other DC asst. editors are pitching in.

In Forever People 8 the FP meet a guy who is planning to use the anti-life equasion to rule the world.

To understand the New Gods origin issue try reading it backwards--it makes it a whole lot easier.

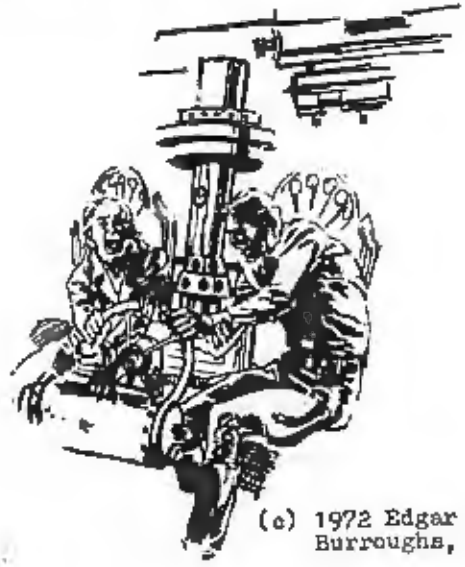
A new villain is introduced in Mister Miracle 7 & 8 -- The Lump. He's not a Thing-type as you would think and the scenes are very interesting.

Murphy Anderson and Dave Cockrum have taken over the artistuc chores on the new series of stories for The Legion Of Super-Heroes after about two or three by Tuska.

Mike Kaluta has done a cover for either Batman or Detective as well as some more work for the mystery books.

The title of All-Star Western has been changed to Weird Western Tales. This is because weird is what's selling. There

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6...



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MARVEL COMICS GROUP

Warlock will continue his adventures in Marvel Premiere and these stories will run parallel to the new testament of the Bible.

Conan The Barbarian is still being published bi-monthly but sales figures indicate that it is on the verge of being made into a monthly once again.

All The Avengers will appear in the 100th issue of that magazine. That all means every single being who was ever an Avenger. That issue is the concluding part of a three-part story. No. 100 will have pencils and inks by Barry Smith.

John Severin is to be the inker of Marvel's new Doc Savage book. The book will adapt the pulp novels over about three issues each.

Harlan Ellison plotted the Avengers story that Rich Buckler has been drawing for use as a filler issue sometime in the spring.

Gil Kane's pencils on Conan The Barbarian will be inked by Ralph Reese.

Marvel Team-Up (whose first issue should be on sale about this time) will feature the team of Spider-Man and The Human Torch for several issues and then may be turned into another Showcase-type book.

The features currently running in the three Marvel try-out books are continuing indefinately (like till sales plummet).

Nostalgia Press is now working on the Captain America hardcover. All the stories will be by Simon & Kirby and all will be printed in black & white. Stan Lee has done an introduction for the book.

In February a new Marvel book will be released -- Hero For Hire -- an entire book devoted to a black super-hero. Billy Graham is doing some work for the book, I don't know weather it's pencils or inks or both.

This summer's Conan Annual will reprint the story from Savage Tales No. 1 in color and modified to pass the code.

Marvel is releasing a reprint special this summer which will contain stories of Cap and Subby from the forties.

The 50th issue of Sub-Mariner will be written and drawn by Bill Everett, his creator.

Gerry Conway reports that Odin will be killed.

Much of the above news was gathered at Creation Con's pro panel so it isn't 100% dependable (it's hard to tell when some pros are joking).

This is a new, modified Marvel listing. I'll do it this way till someone up at Marvel get's benevolent and gives me the checklist.

ASTONISHING TALES 11. Gil Kane drawn. Special origin issue for Ka-Zar.

THE AVENGERS 98. First of three parts. Drawn by Barry Smith (inks by Sal B., I think).

CAPT AMERICA 147. This should be the conclusion of the Hydra story.

DAREDEVIL 86.

FANTASTIC FOUR 121.

THE HULK 149.

MARVEL FEATURE 3. The Defenders again.

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS 35. "The Coming Of Galactus!"

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN 17.

MILLIE THE MODEL 195.

MONSTERS ON THE PROWL 16. 10 pgs of King Kull by the Severins in this book from now on.

OUR LOVE STORY 16.

RAWHIDE KID 98.

SGT FURY 92.

SPIDER-MAN 107.

SUB-MARINER 48.

THOR 198.

WESTERN KID 3.

X-MEN 75. "Re-Enter: The Mimic" from 27.

If DRACULA is a bi-monthly then 2 will be out also. As I type this I haven't seen the first issue yet, along with 1 or 2 other November releases.

Coming Comics

OUR ARMY AT WAR (243, March). Sgt. Rock and Easy Co. go on a "24 Hour Pass" to destroy a munitions factory hidden within a toy factory. Reprinted in this issue are "Rita, A Truck" (the war through the eyes of truck with art by Andru & Esposito) and "Last Shot Of The Trigger Fish", a submarine story by Joe Kubert. Plus a "Rock's Tales" feature on Communications by Sam Glanzman. On sale on or about January 4.

WONDER WOMAN (199, April). Denny O'Neil takes over the editorial reign of Wonder Woman and takes her off on a new direction. The book will now co-feature Jonny Double, the inept detective who starred in Showcase 78. The title of this issue's story is "Tribunal Of Fear". It runs 25 pages with art by Don Heck and Dick Giordano. The cover is a Jeff Jones wash. This issue reprints a Wonder Girl story from the early sixties. On sale on or about January 4.

DC SUPER-SPECTACULAR / ADVENTURE COMICS (DC-10, 416, April). Supergirl stars in the two-part story which revealed how her parents survived the destruction of Argo City in the Survival Zone and in a story entitled "The Black Magic Of Supergirl". Johnny Thunder and The Thunderbolt meet a mysterious robin hood type character in "The Black Canary!" Wonder Woman battles eight of her greatest foes in "Villainy, Inc" a 36 page story from No. 29 of her magazine. The Phantom Lady (one of Quality's greatest stars) in "Mystery Of The Black Cat". Rounding out the issue is a story of Merry, The Girl Of 1,000 Gimmicks -- "Duel Of The Gimmicks". On sale on or about January 4.

These issues should feature the 1971 circulation reports required by law.

These issues will feature the return of E. Nelson Bridwell's Direct Currents listing. The format is basically unchanged and it again covers mainly releases of that specific week.

GHOSTS (4, April). Stories are: "The Crimson Claw", "Ghostly Cities Of Gold", "Man Who Killed His Shadow", "Four Spectres Of Kinshoro", "Legend Of The Black Swan", "Threshold Of Nightmare House", and a text story--"Puzzle Of The Playful Ghosts". On sale January 6.

FALLING IN LOVE (130, March). On sale on or about January 6.

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (136, April). The Losers discover a "Decoy For Death" in this issue. The other original story is "Game Of War" with art by Frank Thorne.

TOMAHAWK (139, April). I inaccurately listed the contents of this issue for number 138 due to the fact that I can't read. I'll repeat anyway: "Death Counsel", the story of an isolationist town. "Black Couger", a Tomahawk story drawn by Frank Frazetta and published back in the fifties. "The Last Battle" by Fred Ray. And lastly a very strange reprint...originally a Hopalong Cassidy story entitled "Secret Of Sherrif Topper" it has been redubbed under the logo of Monty West, Sherrif and retitled "Four Footed Sherrif". Art by Gil Kane. On sale on or about January 6.

PHANTOM STRANGER (18, April). The Stranger stars in "Home Is The Sailor", an 18-page story by Len Wein and Tony DiZuniga. Doctor 13 in "Stop-Over", an 8 page story by Steve Skeates and Tony DiZuniga. Reprints are a two-page shock story from Dr. 13's files and Mark Merlin in "The Demon Spirit That Invaded Mark Merlin" with art by Meskin. On sale on or about January 6.

YOUNG ROMANCES(180, March). On sale on or about January 11.

SUPERMAN (249, March). The story of "Terra Man", a villain born 100 years ago to be the toughest man in the West, but just revived from suspended animation to battle Superman. The lead story is a full-length story by Swan & Anderson. Then there's a short "Origin Of Terra Man" filler drawn by Swan which Neal Adams inked at his own request. The reprint is "High Man On A Flagpole" from Superman No. 46. On sale January 11.

DARK MANSION OF FORBIDDEN LOVE (4, April). On sale on or about January 11.

MISTER MIRACLE (7, April). Scott and Barda return to Apokolipis to try and escape according to the rules. The foe, Granny Goodness, of course. The Boy Commandos in "Return Of Agent Axis". On sale on or about January 13.

JIMMY OLSEN (147, March). "A Superman In Supertown", the story of Superboy's visit to New Genesis, which is not at all what he expects. Inks by Royer, I believe. The reprint is the Newsboy Legion in "Scoop Of Suicide Slum". On sale on or about January 13.

TEEN TITANS (38, April). "Through These Doors Pass The Bravest Titans Of All", Art by Tuska & Cardy. Lilith stars in "Nameless Wander, I". The two reprints are interconnected GA and Aquaman stories -- "Green Arrow's New Partner" and "Aqualad Goes To School". On sale on or about January 13.

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (200, March). Cover and introduction by Kaluta. The stories: "Beast's Revenge", 7 pgs by John Albano and Mike Kaluta. "The Lunatic" by Jack Oleck and Ralph Reese. "A Breath Of Black Death", Tony DiZuniga's first job for Dick Giordano. Reprints: "The Secret Of Camp Galaxy" and "The Forbidden Wish". Plus a Witches Garden Of Curses page. On sale on or about January 13.

BATMAN (240, March). Batman and Ra's Al Ghoul star in "Vengance For A Deadman" an Irv Novick-illustrated portion of the saga of the League Of Assasins. Robin in "Theatre Of The Mind", the second part of his current adventure by Rich Buckler. The reprint is the first of the Mystery Analysts series-"Batman's Great Face-Saving Feat" from No. 164. On sale on or about January 18.

WEIRD WAR TALES (4, April). Intro by Kubert. The lead story, a 16 pager by Irv Novick, tells of a ship that travelled thru time--"Ghost Ship Of Two Wars" The reprints are "Unknown Sentinal" and "Time Warp" (one of the old Dinosaur stories from Star Spangled with art by Gene Colan), and lastly the USS Stevens in "Prelude". On sale on or about January 18.

YOUNG LOVE (93, March). On sale on or about January 18.

THE FLASH (213, March). This is an all-reprint issue due to deadlines. The contents: "Vengance Of The Immortal Villain" from Flash 137 with the old Flash and the JSA; and "Fatal Fingers Of The Flash". On sale on or about January 18.

LOIS LANE (120, March). "Who Killed Lucy Lane?", a special detective story to close out the career of Jimmy Olsen's girlfriend. Rose & Thorn is "Not All Thorns Come From Roses", another part of the story of her costume. Rounding out the issue are two Lois Lane reprint stories--her first appearance as a volunteer nurse and a 4-pg Golden Age short. On sale on or about January 20.

JUSTICE LEAGUE (97, March). The second of three parts of the Starbreaker novel -- "Day The Earth Springs" -- a 37 page story with 13 pages of reprints from JLA 9 (the origin issue) worked in as flashbacks. On sale on or about January 20.

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UNEXPECTED (133, March). This issue has a wash cover which came out very nicely. The stories: "Agnes Doesn't Haunt Here Anymore", "For Better Or Hearse", "Madmen Of Maracome Island", "Tattoos For Doom", and "School Of Fear" On sale on or about January 20.

GIRLS' LOVE STORIES (167, March). On sale on or about January 20.

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (210, March). Superman and Green Arrow on "The World Of Faceless Slaves", a story which picks up where GA's story in GI/GA 87 left off. The reprints are The Black Pirate in "Sword Of Hate" by Moldoff from Sensation Comics 2; and The King in an untitled story from World's Best 1. On sale on or about January 25.

STRANGE ADVENTURES (235, April). Adam Strange and the Justice League star in a 25-page spectacular Alley Award Winner--"The Planet That Came To A Standstill". The fillers (no Star Rovers this month) are "Raiders Of The Giant World" and "The Time Wise Thief". On sale on or about January 25.

SUPERBOY (183, March). "Karkan The Mighty!" is the lead Superboy story. The Legion returns (at long last) with "War Of The Wraith Mates". The reprint is a Superboy story, "Gravity Girl Of Smallville". on sale on or about January 25.

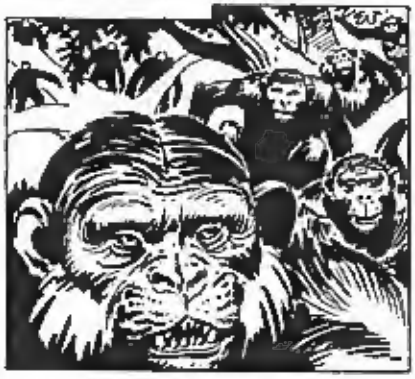
HEART THROBS (139, March). On sale on or about January 27.

DETECTIVE (420, March). Another all-Frank Robbins story -- "Blind Justice... Blind Fear". Batgirl in "Up Against 3 Walls". The reprints are of Mysto and Alfred, respectively:"Riddle Of The Doomed Magicians" and "Police Lineup". On sale on or about January 27.

ACTION (410, March). "The Satanic Son Of Superman" and "Healing Hands From Beyond" are the original stories. The reprint is part two of the Teen Titans in "The Secret Olympic Heroes". On sale on or about January 27.

ADVENTURE COMICS (417, March). Supergirl in "All Men Are But Slaves", script by Skeates, art by Oskner with a little ghosting by Jose Delbo. The Vigilante in a 1-part short (10-pg) story-- "The Cop Killer". Script by Wolfman & Skeates, art by Morrow. Reprints: The Shining Knight in "The Flying Horse Swindle" with art by Frank Frazetta; and "The Enchantress Of Terror Castle". On sale on or about January 27.

TARZAN OF THE APES IS COMING -- ON SALE FEBUARY 29th! KORAK, SON OF TARZAN OUT ON MARCH 14th!



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will be no change in the content. The new title really isn't that bad since the book's current lead character, El Diablo, will be played up in a gothic style. No firm decision has been made on Bat Lash yet.

The two gothic loves have been renamed also. The title of Joe Orlando's is Secrets Of Sinister House. I don't know the title of Dorothy Woolfolk's. The change will be effective with number 5.

Lynn Marron wrote the story "Snow Beast" which I incorrectly credited to someone else last issue.

Adventure Comics report:

418 - Supergirl with Johnny Double
Black Canary (part 1) by Toth
Phantom Stranger reprint
Dr. Mid-Nite (unpublished 1948)

419 - Supergirl by DiZuniga & Oskner
Zatanna (5pg) by Giordano
Black Canary (part 2) by Toth
Phantom Stranger reprint
Enchantress reprint

420 - Supergirl
Zatanna short
Vigilante (part 1) by Morrow
Animal Man reprint

421 - not definate yet but probably...
Supergirl
Vigilante (part 2) by Morrow
Phantom Stranger reprint
Enchantress reprint

422 - if Ditko agrees then this ish will feature his first story

all the Phantom Stranger reprints have art by Infantino of course.

The Phantom Stranger is going back to the land of the ice giants in No. 19.

There will be a 100-Page issue of House Of Mystery next year as a part of the book's run.

The Dr. Pat and Lady Danger reprints have been dropped from Lois Lane. They may show up in a 100-Pager eventually.

For the general information of all of you here's E. Nelson Bridwell's interpertation of the powers of the Forever People...
Big Bear - strength
Beautiful Dreamer - illusions
Vykin The Black - tracking
Mark Moonrider - megaton touch!
Serifan - nothing specific, maybe psychic

Tarzan

Secret Agent Corrigan

The Phantom

Flash Gordon

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Tarzan at DC

Key on page 13

THEN...AS STARS AND PLANETS SPIN IN A WHIRLING KALEIDOSCOPE ...AWESOME FORCES COURSE THROUGH THE BODY OF THE MAN... JOHN CARTER. THERE IS AN INCREDIBLE RENDING... AND...
I FEEL... AS IF MY SOUL IS BEING RIPPED FROM MY BODY!
6

All material on these two pages (C) 1972 Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.

OK, THE EDITOR'S UGLY, BUT WE ARE NOT SELLING HIM...YET!

What does it take to survive in comic book fandom? Well, start with a smattering of Tony Isabella's WANDERING FAN, a little of Mark Evanier's TERATOLOGY, a dash of BEARD MUTTERINGS by Norman Masters, a pinch of Mike Raub & APA-WATCH, a half-pound of Cliff Letovsky's VIEW FROM CANADA, a SOUNDING BOARD by Stan Clish, some SCI-FI AND FANTASY by Joe Thomasino, a little JACK SPAKE by Jeff Wasserman some dashes of Adam Malin, Bob Pinaha, Wally Stoelting, Gary Berman, Art Miller and Gary Brown, give it to Joe Brancatelli and "Jakey" Jenkins to edit, and serve it on a monthly basis, and you have got COMIC FANDOM MONTHLY. Every month CFM brings you fandom's best writers- in large in-depth doses and gives you some needed relief from art-zine headache. Get fandom's only monthly article zine, CFM.

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the Wandering Fan
TONY ISABELLA

The Etruscans approach the bridge that leads across the Tiber River and into Rome. A lone warrior, Horatius, bars their advance along the narrow bridge. As the Etruscans approach, the gladiator steps aside and says, "After you, gang!"

Nathan Hale has been captured by the British troops and is to be hung as a spy. As the executioner lifts the noose over him, he turns to him and says, "How would you like to know where General Washington is right now?"

The Eagle has landed. Neil Armstrong looks out on the dismal surface of the moon and says, "I ain't going out there!"

Where Have All The Heroes Gone?

Horrifying, isn't it? With one scene, we have reduced heroes to cowards and traitors.

Superman leads a mob of students on a march of destruction to destroy their university. Supergirl is cringing in a corner, terrified by a mouse. Superboy is leading a wolf pack. Lois Lane is lying on a couch dead, an apparent suicide.

The first examples are imaginary. The second are fictitious, having appeared on the covers of recent issues of DC's Action Comics, Adventure Comics, Superboy, and Lois Lane. There seems to be a trend forming. Editors are chipping away at the super-hero concept. They aren't very good sculptors. Trying to make the heroes more human, they are making them less than human.

Superman stands before an intergalactic court that judges him guilty of crimes against humanity. The Man Of Steel has gone mad. He watches as a monster devours Metropolis. He attempts to murder the Batman.

What happened to the heroic figures that flashed through sunswept skies, battling crime and righting wrongs? They've all gone someplace else. The new heroes cry a lot. Cry too much. There's a super-villain smashing the Statue of Liberty. Go away, mankind. I must consider the morality of this. Hydra's killing Capt America in Las Vegas. Go away, whitey! I've got a pickpocket to trap here in Harlem.

Too many covers are death-oriented. The Batman hangs outside his murderer's window. Two villains stand over the Flash's corpse and chuckle. Daredevil's drowning in Hudson Bay.

A friend of mine has said that the surest way to get a cover approved by the manager of one company is to show the hero flat on his back or dead.

What is a super-hero? What is a hero? A man of courage. He isn't more than human. He's completely human in the best sense of that label. He gives us hope. He gives us an example.

Ghosts cover-features a swindler. House of Secrets a torturer of the Spanish Inquisition. Two convicts adorn the cover story of Ghostly Haunts. Monsters On The Prowl has to settle for a sinister scientist.

A super-hero can have all the problems of the world. He does not let them stop him from getting the job done. No super-hero is an island. Betray your people, reject your throne, Namor, and you betray yourself.

Remember those crowded covers of the past? A handful of men, a thousand foes. They knew tragedy, many of them were born from the effects of tragedy, but they knew that the worst tragedy was doing nothing in the face of evil. The stories weren't sophisticated or relevant. Maybe they weren't even good. Still...

The Avengers, hunted by their government, risk all to prevent the Andromeda Swarm from destroying Earth. Three heroes--a youngster torn from his love, a monster, a black man--overcome the hate of a nation to save the world. Warlock prepares to take on a task fit for a Messiah. Jimmy Olsen bulls his way through terrors that he, a mere mortal, should be helpless against. Scott Free defends his individual freedom against a godlike foe. Orion's team of ordinary humans fight demons.

Thank you, Roy Thomas.

Thank you, Jack Kirby.

You understand. You really do. You know what the super-hero is all about.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.

All DCs are now 25¢. ?. Let's first look at the bad side and how this could harm pro comics. It's a real gamble for a company that has little margin of profit. Possibly the higher price per comic could mean fewer comics bought per fan. The regular features of the 32 page books can't conviently expand to fill the extra pages making reprints necessary. Other than this they have little to lose.

Economicly the 32 page comic has been a borderline industrty for the past 6-7 years. Comics, a thin, flimsy, 32 page format, are alone on the magazine racks; the easiest thing to shove off. The appeal of pro comics has contracted steadily over the period from the late 40s when the page count went down till this year. To save money the publishers zeroed in on the characters that sold and seperated them into individual books. Even World's Finest consolidated seperate Batman and Superman stories into a team-up. With only space for one character per book, the 32 pages limited the ability to inovate. New characters had to sell quickly in distinct books or get plucked. Many features not strong enough alone might easily have found acceptance in time as supporting features, Deadman and Bat Lash come to mind. Pro comics today still act retarded because of this long dry stretch. During those years the idea that Superman Comics only sold if you showed nothing but Superman, Army Comics only if you showed nothing but battles, and Shock Monster Comics only if you showed nothing but gore became deeply ingrained as THE formula for success. This harmful inbreeding accounts for much of the brain damage comic book pros suffer from now each time they sit down to work.

So what's better about the 25¢ increase? Almost everything. Physically it improves comics a lot. It makes them easier to display on racks, allows higher percentages to retaillers, and gives them more of the respectable appearance of general magazines. They are larger. Before comics were one of the few magazines intended to be read at one sitting, stigmatizing them as throw-away stuff. Whereas Time or New Yorker from their size suggest two or more sittings to digest the material. There is also new ad space for when diverse advertisers see fit to subsidize our medium too.

What's being done with the expanded format? By the sheer volume available to them, DC was almost forced to use reprints. However they are being quite generous. At the rate they are consuming material by early 1973 they will run out of the better material from all years and be forced to create new strips and back features.

Surprisingly DC has attempted no novel length issues besides the Gothic Loves. This failing falls mainly on their writers, none of whom, in my opinon, has the motivation or ingenuity to perform for 36 pages or longer. DC remains understaffed well into its first year of new directions. As usual the vast bulk of Marvel is still methodless madness. Martin Goodman has never had a strategy for reprinting and still believes wholesale chaos will sell. Marvel's reprints for the most partare tastelessly served up as opposed to DC's. DC has always gone out of their way to make reprints palatable. The only glimmer from Marvel before their retreat back to 32 pages was the attempt at novel length stories for each character. Though I admire the energy of so few people to do so much, the effect even by Adams and Thomas on Avengers seemed just more of the same. The stories were broadened, covering more territory, but the opportunity for more depth and different rhythms for the plot passed by. Some of the DC reprints especially ancient Batman, Dr. Fate, and Hourman posses in spades the quality of a simple line of logical action that Marvel is so anxious for.

The overall good effect of the page/price hike can already be seen. The commercial artists and copy writers that produce comics smell more money coming

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

REVIEWS

PAUL HUGLI

GL/GA 87 - I read in all the newszines that GL/GA 87 would be a reprint issue (now it seems that 88 will be), so much to my surprise and delight I found it wasn't. It was, instead, a great ish. I still like GL & GA together but this arrangement seems as if it might turn o out quite well. This issue was typical GL/GA stuff but it might shock anyone not familar with the "tell-it-like-it-is" fromat of the book. In both stories Adams' art is not his his best (but still a lot bettwr than most artists), but I think these are the ones he had to rush because of the subway incident. In the GL story I think he stereotyped the Negroes a little too much but it was still good. The plot is great--bringing in Guy Gardner, having the Guardians pick a Negro, GL showing a little prejudice, et al. Probably the best part was the ending (as with most of O'Neil's stories), in which we find out that the original GL was wrong in his judgement and that the new GL was right (on?). I hope to see more of"square John".

The GA story starts out with a good rundown (and short!) of GA's career. "What Can One Man Do?" by Elliot Maggin was interesting and I would have mistaken it for an O'Neil story if it didn't have Maggin's byline. I suggest you keep an eye on him, it looks as if he's going to turn into a fairly good (great, maybe?) writer. Oliver Queen for mayor? Good idea. But as Superman said "Where would your secret identity be with two blond bearded public figures in town?" Could they be trying to tell us something? Like no more GA? I doubt it, but? Well, anuhow, Elliot and Neal do a good job, especially adapting a small portion of Hemingway's "A Farewell To Arms." The best part of this story is why he decides to run for mayor...when he sees an innocent die from senseless violence. Dinah (in reference to the riot), "where four people got killed." and GA replies "Five" ...a great effect.

Then the issue was wrapped up with a reprint called "Earth's First GL", with art by Gil Kane (not one of my favorite artists but he did do better work back then).

KEY TO DC-BURROUGHS MATERIAL IN THIS ISSUE:

Pg2,5 - Pellucidar sketches
Pg. 6 - Panel from Tarzan
Pg. 8 - 1 - Panel from Tarzan
2 - Korak ad
3 - Earthdigger from Pellucidar
4 - Heroes of Pellucidar
Pg. 9 - 5 - Korak sketch
6 - Panel from John Carter
7 - Panel from Tarzan
Above - Panels from Tarzan

CIRCULATION DATA FOR ETCETERA:

No. 6 - Print run 250 copies, 225 sold

No. 7 - Print run 250 copies, 0 sold

No. 8 - Print run 250 copies, 240 sold

No. 9 - Print run 250 copies, 240 sold

ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS TO THE FANDOM FORUM ARTICLE ON CANADIAN FANDOM IN No.9

1-Fuddle Duddle is a "Mad" of Canada's politics and includes all sorts of takeoffs and satires on Canadian politics.

2-Pilote and Charlie are (to my knowledge) available only in the province of Quebec, not all of Canada.

3-A new company, Comic Book World, is producing advertising comics like "Kentucky Fried Adventures Of Col. Sanders" in Nova Scotia. Many have been made and they're being used as promotional giveaways.

CONVENTION REPORT

This is the first part of my Creation coverage. Next ish Neal Pozner will go into details about the panels and so forth.

Creation Con 71 began on Friday morning at 9:30 for most of the staff. Adam had instructed about ten of us to show up then to put together the membership packet, set up the dealers' room, and similar chores. Naturally, he was the last to arrive.

Still, we managed to get everything done Friday and even shepereded a few dealers into the massive 75 table Grand Ballroom (Phil Seuling thinks we could have fit more so next year we're going to let him do it).

Con chairman Adam Malin opened the riot officually Saturday morning at 9:00 and the crowds poured in.

Activities included: A keynote speech by Jim Steranko, an hour's talk by Steranko on various topics, a pro panel which ended up with a record mob of pros (Marv Wolfman, Len Wein, Mark Hanerfeld, Gerry Conway, E. Nelson Bridwell, Roy Thomas, Berni Wrightson, Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams, Alan Kupperberg, Alan Weiss, Billy Graham, and another handful I've forgotten), an EC slide show, hours upon hours of movies, an on-stage interview with Barry Allan Richmond of the French Theatre, a Web Of Horror panel, and a couple of auctions.

The convention was a great one for buying and selling. Very few dealers complained of the sales. As a matter of fact, I would say that the con was oriented towards the dealers more than towards the fans.

The con was nagged by a few minor problems (running out of registration badges, projector malfunction Saturday night) and a lack of schedule organization (fan editors panel cancelled, pro panel switched around, dealers' room closing early Sunday) but a large staff pitched in and conquered all obstacles to bring about a very pleasant happening in the comic art world.

BOOKS

The Superman hardcover is now out. Copies are available from most fan-oriented book stores as well as from several dealers. The cost till Jan. 1 is $7.95.

The Batman hardcover will be out by Christmas, or so hopes most people connected with it.

The two Green Lantern/Green Arrow paperbacks will be out Jan. 2 and March ?, respectively. There will be all new layouts on both books.

The EC Horror Library is off the presses at Nostalgia books and a companion volume of science-fiction will be published in about a year. The Capt America book is the next project from Nostalgia.

Comix, a new book by Les Daniels on the history of our art form contains a number of murderous innacuracies (Cap revived in Strange Tales 14, et al) but also features some nice b/w repros of complete Marvel, DC, and EC (I think) stories. The cost is $7.95 and the publisher is Fusion.

Volume 2 of the Steranko History is at the printer. That should mean that it'll be out within a month.

It isn't a book but if Phase isn't fandom closest thing to one I haven't seen anything closer. Anyway, all of Phase is finally at the printer and the four editors hope it'll be out within a week or so after this issue is out. Ad next issue of Etcetera & The Comic Reader.

next ish:

Next issue will feature Creation Con coverage by Neal Pozner, Radar In The Void, Reviews by Paul Hugli and Paul Kupperberg, and probably a Fandom Forum article on Andru & Esposito.

The February issue (my fabulous anniversary issue of Etc.) will contain: Jëch Spake, Wandering Fan (Can We Please Have The Old Comics Code Back?), Radar In The Void, Reviews, a short history of Etcetera, and a feature on the circulation data of the new comics.

See ya there, I hope.

CONVENTION REPORT

My first impression of Second Sunday (Phil Seuling's new monthly dealers room thing) was "Yawn...Another Nathan's Mini Con!" That, however, was at opening (10 O'Clock). By two the con was in full swing with between 150 and 200 attendees and about a dozen dealers. That was excellent considering the limited publicity given the event (and the fact that not even the doormen knew where the con was!).

Finally I reached the eighteenth floor Dealers' Room (the same room the July 4 con used as a panel room). Admission was supposed to be $1 but this time Phil made it 0¢ (in the future it'll be 50¢). Everyone cheered and the action began!

Besides dealers per se there were some other interesting tables:

Phil's underground newsstand with some comics and fantasy books on the side.

Adam Malin's table for Creation Con with a similar potpourri of stuff.

Paul Levitz and Jerry Berger's Fanzine Sales Table with 1,001 assistants.

Monster Times and Al Shuster's Star Trek Con had tables to sell advances on subs and tickets, respectively.

Still, some of the best buys were available from guys walking around with suitcases full of comics.

The idea of Second Sunday was to give fans a chance to buy comics in peace. As a hucksters' gathering it was a shocking success. Thanks Phil!

Upcoming Second Sundays are planned on Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, May 14, and June 11.

/Paul Kupperberg

For complete information on Second Sunday write:

Phil Seuling
2883 West 12 Street
Bklyn, NY 11224

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VERY LATE NEWS:
Dead, mercifully and unnoticed in the last few months:

Girls' Romances (with No. 160)

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WANDERING FAN continued from page 11

You know his responsibilities.

A humanoid missle, covered with a red cloth with a lightning bolt insignia, was shot down off the Atlantic Coast. Seven planes with black hawks painted on their fuselages rescued the missile as it fell toward the ground. Special investigator Denny Colt refused to comment on the matter.

They don't all understand, Denny.

But we do.

TONY ISABELLA'S WANDERING FAN column will return next issue with a discourse on the comics code.

RADAR IN THE VOID continued from page 12

into the business even if right now they are still paid at the same rate. DC's covers have improved measureably. The interior art if not better Art is better commercial art. At an ACBA meeting Infantino spoke of DC's willingness to work deals with creators of new properties to retain the rights. And after black & white comics muddle through their comic book brain damage honest graphic stories may actually see print.

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EDITORIAL PLEA:

I owe the following people issues of Etc/TCR but I don't know their current addresses. Can anyone help me:

Mark Barclay	Carl Langsam
Ric Barrile	Gordon Linzner
J. Scott Browning	Alan Lyda
Paul DiLella	Elizabeth Miller
Paul Engelberg	Fredrick Norwood
J. Todd Freeman Jr.	Mark Robinette
Woodrow Gelman	Maurice Rose
Jason Hanson	Patrick Snead
Michael Hurley	Edward Streb
Jim Hunter	Keith Trucker
David Kirby	Wm. Van Der Wege

John Workman

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Coming up here in NYC is Star Trek Con, January 21-23 at the Statler Hilton. Al Shuster is the demon behind this con.

Phil Seuling's ultimate con will run five and a half days this year! Pre-registration Friday and pure con from Saturday to Wednesday. Good grief!